



## CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 82

4A Blanchard Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

President:	Carolyn Small
Vice Presidents:	Diana Copp
	Annemarie Dawson
Secretary:	Pat Larrabee
Treasurer:	Sue Wall
Trustees:	G Morgan Knight
	Herbert S. Foster, Jr.
	Katrina Rich
	Brian Jensen
	( nominee: Lynda Wilson Jensen)
Advisor:	Barbara Garsoe

### MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the Society shall be to collect and preserve artifacts pertaining to the Town of Cumberland and its history, making it available to groups, schools, and individuals.

## SEPTEMBER 2012 VOLUME 91

### SEPTEMBER THOUGHTS

If you want to make your dreams come true, the first thing you have to do is wake up. ~J.M. Power  
Great ideas need landing gear as well as wings. ~C.D. Jackson

### **JUNE MEETING**

A small group of folks attended the June meeting at the Museum. A presentation was made on how the museum was created and who was involved. A good reminiscent trip to 1989, and Morgan Knight was there to help fill some informational gaps and stories. The crew that put the building together worked hard and had a great time doing it. A lot of hijinks involved! We also bid farewell to Alberta Haynes as our treasurer for the past ten years or so, and presented her with a gift of a zebra print scarf as a token of our appreciation for her dedicated and thorough work for the Cumberland Historical Society. With the vote for the officers for the coming year, we welcomed Sue Wall as the Treasurer to take Alberta's place.

### **REFRESHMENTS FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING:**

There will be an OPEN HOUSE on September 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 4:00 instead of the regular meeting in September. See the notice at the end of the newsletter. We will need people to volunteer an hour or so of their time to "meet and greet" folks, or donate a plate of goodies to serve visitors. Katrina Rich has volunteered already to do one of the "meet and greets". Please contact Carolyn Small at 829-4423 or [csmall1943@maine.rr.com](mailto:csmall1943@maine.rr.com) if you are able to help out. Thanks.

**SEPTEMBER STUMPER:** Where are the two King's Highway markers located in Cumberland?

Answer at the end of the newsletter.

### **ACQUISITIONS:**

Another treasure trove of items from the estate of Cap and Helen Bragg. Many of the items will be on display at the OPEN HOUSE on September 15<sup>th</sup>: Helen's 1927 wedding dress and some accessories, eight baseball uniforms from the Cumberland Town Baseball Team with the names of the sponsors on the back, and an elaborately beaded sash from the IORM (Redmen).

From Phil Chase: A poster announcing a showing of circa 1866 "Comical Brown" at Union Hall (now the Maintenance building for MSAD #51), his great grandmother Adelaide Morrison's geography book from the Gurney School, and a college engineering notebook of Frank S. Hall, his great grandfather.

### **CONDOLENCES TO:**

Norma Seekins and family on the death of her husband and Cumberland Historical Society member for many years, Ray. Also "get well wishes" to Norma who is recovering from surgery. With all this and the passing of her daughter less than a year ago, it has been a tough year for the family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them all.

### **THIS SUMMER:**

Lynda (Wilson) Jensen and Joan (Merrill) Weeks and Carolyn (Fordham) Small have been meeting once a week in July and August to help get things organized at the Museum. Both Joan and Lynda have fantastic organizational skills and great strides have been made. After the Open House and Cumberland Fair, we can get started on catching up with the mountain of accessioning that needs to be done. There was a suggestion made that maybe an evening a couple of times a month would encourage people who have 9-5 jobs to come help. That sounds like a good idea.

### **ITEMS FOR SALE:**

Coverlets, Christmas ornaments, Christmas cards, "An Ornament of Grace", "How to Research Your Old House", and some other items, along with the 2013 calendar with beautiful pen & ink sketches of various buildings, scenes and people from Cumberland in the past. These drawings are created by local artist, Tony Lisa, and each picture has a one-line historical description. There are only 100 of these calendars printed and they are selling for \$10.00 each. Great Christmas gifts! And they will be on hand if you come to the Open House.

### **BUSINESS:**

With Sue Wall being voted in to the position of Treasurer, we have a space available on the Board of Trustees. Lynda (Wilson) Jensen has been asked and has accepted the invitation to fill that position. Please indicate by phone call or email to Carolyn Small for a vote to have her installed on the Board. 829-4423 or by email at [csmall1943@maine.rr.com](mailto:csmall1943@maine.rr.com). When that vote is in, we will be back up to the quota of five members of the Board that is required according to the by-laws.

The Officers and Trustees gathered at the Cumberland Historical Society for a business meeting on Wednesday, September 5 at 7:00 PM. Sue Wall handed out an up-to-date financial report and various items were discussed. Programs that are in place were announced, with openings for three more needed. If you have an idea for a good one, let us know. Discussion was also held on the possibility of having some of the meetings being presented during the daytime, rather than in the evening, to be able to offer them to people who would like to attend, but do not drive at night. Carolyn made contact with the Joanna Foster, who heads up the Holiday Craft Sale at Greely to see if we can have a table there to sell some of our items. The answer was yes. That will be the Saturday before Thanksgiving, which is November 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00AM to 2:00PM. If someone would like to volunteer to head up that table, it would be greatly appreciated, because I will be at another previously designated all day meeting that day. Thanks in advance.

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### **ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY MEMBER "WALL OF PRIDE"**

We are in the process of creating a "Wall of Pride" at Town Hall, and are looking for the names of any Active Duty military personnel from the Town of Cumberland.

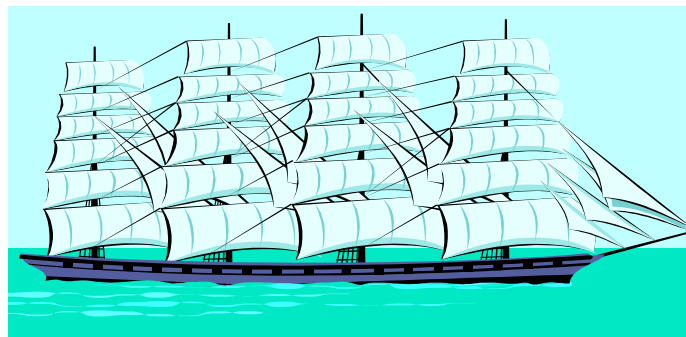
Please contact Diana Copp at 829-5677 for more information.

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## **CAPTAIN JOSEPH BLANCHARD OF CUMBERLAND**

Information from the 1880 History of Cumberland County

Captain Joseph Blanchard was born June 17, 1803, in the Town of Cumberland in his parents' home on Blanchard Road. (It is now 102 Blanchard Road, the residence of Dr. William Harper and family). He was the youngest child of Nathaniel and Christine (Loring) Blanchard. Nathaniel followed the sea most of his life, and was drowned, at the age of fifty-eight, at Jewel's Island. Captain Joseph Blanchard received a good common school education, and at the age of fourteen, went to sea with his brother, Nathaniel, aboard the coastal schooner "Telegraph". After four years he became second mate of the vessel for one year, two years first mate of the brig, "Echo", and then as captain of the vessel, he made a trip from Portland to Charleston. Following trips were to Cowes on the Isle of Wight, Antwerp, Trinidad, Cuba, and two trips to Europe. Returning from a trip to Havana aboard the brig "Echo", he was shipwrecked on Cape Cod near the Highland Lights, with a total loss of the vessel, cargo, and one man. For nine years he ran the brig, "Freighter", to Point Peter, Guadeloupe, followed by two trips to Europe. (From one of his trips to Europe, he brought made a lovely set of Staffordshire china for his wife. Two pieces of that are on display at the Cumberland Historical Society Museum.) With the ship "John Cadmus", he made four voyages to Europe and two coast voyages, followed by two voyages to Guadeloupe, two more trips to Europe, four to the West Indies, one to France and one to Ireland during the famine there. Several other journeys followed. He contracted to have the ship "Cornelia" built, and consequently took charge of her, sailing for eight years to Europe. He also had the ship "United States" built. He returned home, and made three more trips aboard the "Cornelia", and then, with the Civil War commencing, retired from the seafaring life. Upon his retirement, he took charge of the homestead farm on Blanchard Road, formerly occupied by his father. Many of the ships he sailed on were built in the Yarmouth shipyards, ie; the "Telegraph", the "Echo", the "Cornelia", the "Rebecca", and the "Catherine". He was involved with Town matters in a few ways, but remained interested mostly in the world of navigation. His success as a businessman gave him rank among the strong financiers of Cumberland County. He was a stockholder in the Merchants' National Bank in Portland. He is said to have made more trips to the West Indies than any other seagoing man, have made eighty-four, being on the sea for upwards of forty years, during which time, he made thirty voyages to Europe. His many visits to foreign countries made him familiar with the customs and language of other nations, and particularly in French he was a ready and fluent conversationalist. He married, on October 4, 1829, Albertine Prince, born August 31, 1804, daughter of James and Sarah Prince Cumberland. They had four children, Helen, Sarah F., Henrietta, and James A. Captain Joseph Blanchard died December 1, 1885 at age 81 years, 5 months, 20 days. His wife, Albertine, died June 10, 1873 at age 68. They are buried in the Congregational Church Cemetery, facing the monument of Eliphalet Greely.



**Upcoming programs at Cumberland Historical Society:**

Meetings start at 7:00 PM at the Red Brick Schoolhouse at 4A Blanchard Road unless otherwise noted.

**Saturday, September 15 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**OPEN HOUSE at the CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**October 18, 2012**

**The Cumberland Lineup**

presented by Thomas Bennett, Prince Memorial Library Director

at Prince Memorial Library 7:00 PM

Refreshments will be provided by the Cumberland Historical Society.

The Prince Memorial Library has acquired a collection of newspaper photographs from the estate of Grace Hutchinson, who was the reporter for the news of the Town of Cumberland for the Portland papers for many years. The pictures need to be identified as to the “who, what, why, when and where”. Please attend this meeting to help identify them, or just sit back and view photos from the 1960’s and 1970’s.



We want “just the facts, Ma’am”.

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ANSWER TO THE STUMPER: King’s Highway marker B135 is in front of the Top Knot Farm on Middle Road, and B136 is in front of the farm at the corner of Foreside Road and Town Landing Road.

# Membership renewal form.

2012 -2013

CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 82

Cumberland, ME 04021

Membership application:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN or CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

WINTER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DATES THAT THE WINTER ADDRESS APPLIES: \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOUR BUSINESS IS INTERESTED IN BEING A CORPORATE SPONSOR, PLEASE INDICATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues are \$10.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate membership is \$100.00. \_\_\_\_\_

**SAVE THIS DATE!**

**Saturday, September 15, 2012**

**Cumberland Historical Society will host an**

**OPEN HOUSE 10:00 AM to 4:00PM**

Stop in at the Red Brick Schoolhouse Museum for a look into Cumberland's past. Artifacts and photos will be available for viewing, and treats will be served.

Cumberland's history abounds with sea captains, lumber mills, farms, and families from the earliest years whose names still remain here in town. Find out where there was a shipyard in the town; where there were two trolley lines that passed through; how Greely got its name; why there is a monument in the center; where there was a wild animal park; where the two King's Highway markers are, and many other facts of interest pertaining to Cumberland.

For further information, contact Carolyn Small at 829-4423 or by email at [csmall1943@maine.rr.com](mailto:csmall1943@maine.rr.com).



King's Highway marker # 135

